

**MODIS Technical Team Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 12, 2002**  
**Building 33, Room E 125**

Vince Salomonson chaired the meeting. In attendance were Shaيدا Johnston, Steve Kempler, Dorothy Hall, Eric Vermote, Robert Wolfe, Chris Ramsay, Michael King, and Barbara Conboy, with Yolanda Harvey taking the minutes.

**1.0 Upcoming Events**

- 34<sup>th</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly, October 10-19, 2002, Houston, TX (abstract deadline past)
- MODIS Outreach Workshop on Land Surface Radiation and Snow and Ice Products, October 21-22, 2002, Boston, MA
- Pecora 15 & Land Satellite Information IV Symposium, November 12-15, 2002, Denver, CO (abstract deadline past)
- EOS Investigator Working Group Meeting, November 18-20, Ellicott City, MD

**2.0 Meeting Minutes**

**2.1 General Discussion**

Salomonson opened the meeting by announcing that Dr. Jim Simpson will be visiting on Monday September 16 to go over characteristics of MODIS data that his group has found. He will also be meeting with Steve Kempler and other DAAC people to discuss user interface and other items. .

Conboy reported that MODARCH will be down this weekend (Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> from 5pm until Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 8am) because of a building-wide power outage.

On the Terra Data Products Handbook, Conboy reported that the Oceans group is working on revisions, as are members of the Land group and the Atmospheres group. Abbott, Barnes, Gordon, Huete, King, Menzel (for Mod 35) Strahler, Vermote, and Wan have reviewed and submitted their revisions.

Salomonson reported that Steve Graham wants to update information about validation activities as they relate to the Aqua mission. This mainly calls for the validation information on the MODIS web pages to be as current as possible. Salomonson added that the user guides should be getting updated as well.

Salomonson reported that he just finished writing an Earth Observer article giving a broad overview of the MODIS Science Team meeting in July and a detailed summary of the User Access Data Panel discussion. As for the discipline summaries, Justice is working on his, Esaias has completed a draft, and Menzel will try to write one.

Salomonson reported (and Kempler confirmed) that there is now a petabyte of data in the DAAC.

Salomonson reported that there will be a Tea and Poster session on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Whoever would like to join Salomonson needs to let him know by COB September 13<sup>th</sup> what the name and subject of their poster is. The session will be in Building 28's atrium, and will last about one hour.

Salomonson reported that he had a meeting yesterday (September 11<sup>th</sup>) with Robin Pfister and others about interweaving the browse pages and the ECHO interface. The minutes are available from her. He reported that the meeting was positive. Wolfe said that they are very willing to work with us, and with ECHO coming online, this is a good time to move forward.

Salomonson reported that Bruce Barkstrom is moving forward with the SWGD experiment at the Langley DAAC, and he would like input from user community. Salomonson said that, if the approach recommended by Barkstrom is employed more widely, we want to be careful that the parameters used in the general study include those related or peculiar to MODIS. Kempler agreed, saying that he believes the Langley DAAC users are different from the average MODIS user. Salomonson said that he would like to see some experiments up here, and Wolfe said that it would be useful for all of the DAACs.

Salomonson reported that the MDPRT report has been sent out with contributor's suggestions.

Johnston asked what we are going to do to coordinate upcoming L1B data changes with direct broadcast users. Salomonson said that this is something to discuss with Chris Lynnes and Pat Coronado. Johnston then asked about Collection 4 changes, and Wolfe asked if we will test the changes before giving them out. Johnston asked about packaging the changes that we do give out, and Salomonson said that Chris Lynnes will most likely do the packaging.

Salomonson said that the GSFC Center Visiting Committee will be coming soon, and Michael King will be speaking for that.

## **2.2 Instrument Status**

### ***2.2.1 Aqua MODIS***

Salomonson reported that Aqua went into safe mode because the instrument yawed too much during a drag maneuver (1.7 vs. 1.0 degrees). He said that the instrument should come out of safe mode this afternoon (September 12<sup>th</sup>), and MODIS will have to restabilize for about a day.

### ***2.2.2 Terra MODIS***

Salomonson reported that Terra MODIS will probably have to switch to its B-side formatter on the 18<sup>th</sup>, and that they are waiting for Barnes to return before proceeding.

Salomonson said that the recent data dropouts have been because of the formatter problem, and so they feel that they need to switch to the B-side formatter.

### **2.3 DAAC**

Kempler reported that optimistically, Collection 4 reprocessing could be done by next July 2003, and pessimistically be mid October 2003. Salomonson asked when MODAPS would be done with Collection 4 reprocessing, and Wolfe said that they should finish right on the DAAC's tail. Kempler asked if because Land is starting later, is day 255 still important? Salomonson said yes, it's important for getting the best quality data. Wolfe said that the Land schedule (except for the Land/Sea Mask) is looking good, and most deliveries are in. Kempler said that for Oceans, they are getting sample Aqua data products up on an ftp site, which he thinks will work well. Salomonson said that the Oceans people took their CD to Italy, and that they are going to make more of them and put the data up on ftp. He continued that Hall, Huete, and Myneni are working on CDs or have already produced some. Kempler said that processing has been normal, reprocessing is with a day of pushing and ingesting data, and that overall it has been a good week.

### **2.4 MODAPS**

Wolfe reported that MODAPS processing is keeping up. They are concerned about 7 days open on Tuesday because of delays and getting data from EDOS, but Alcott is working on improving that data flow. There was the data day 245 problem when the Terra MODIS instrument went in to day instead of night, so they are looking at that data closely to make sure that there is no adverse impact. They ended up with about 9 Gb of data instead of 6. Wolfe reported that Oceans reprocessing is nominal, the preparations for the next phase of reprocessing are looking good, they have the LUTs from Miami, and so they will start next Tuesday or Wednesday (September 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>). He reported that a lot of the Land PGEs are in for the second science test, including a number of PGEs for the sinusoidal grid change. Wolfe concluded by saying that the schedule looks good.

### **2.5 Atmosphere**

Salomonson reported that King will speak at the National Air and Space Museum about water in the atmosphere, with Eric Barron speaking about water on land and Sylvia Earle about water in the oceans. King said that it is a showcase of what we have learned via Earth observations.

### **2.6 Cryosphere**

Hall said if anyone has comments on the snow CD's introductory comments readme file, please let her know because they will be going into production soon. Otherwise, they are ready to go on that project. Salomonson said that Hall is leaving for Germany to work with modelers on ingesting snow data and asked her whether they are tentatively close to producing a daily snow fraction. Hall said that they are already producing at one resolution, and are working on GCM modeling. Salomonson said that working with models is particularly important. He said that wherever possible it would be good to have

progress in assimilating MODIS products into models or used similarly in scientific studies or applications.

### **3.0 Action Items**

#### **3.1 New Action Items**

None.

#### **3.2 Old Action Items**

3.2.1 Technical team to discuss further the issue of predicted ephemeris data and how to improve it.

Status: Open.

Ed Masuoka and Robert Wolfe plan to meet with the Terra Flight Operations Team to see if they can run definitive ephemeris 2-4 times per day. The context for this issue is to provide better geolocation information for things like fire front tracking and similar issues.

3.2.2 Science Team to update the Terra Data Products Handbook and submit edits and new gray scale imagery to Barbara Conboy within a few weeks.

Status: Open.

Some members of the Oceans, Land, Atmospheres, and Cryosphere are still reviewing; Abbott, Barnes, Gordon, Huete, King, Menzel (for Mod 35), Strahler, Vermote, and Wan have completed their revisions.

3.2.3 Justice to get back to the Technical Team about whether or not the land-water mask will be changed.

Status: Open.